

UAE urges OPEC not to raise output

NIOSIA (R) — The United Arab Emirates Monday urged fellow OPEC members not to raise oil production to meet a shortage in supplies caused by Iraq's take-over of Kuwait, the Emirates News Agency WAM reported. "The United Arab Emirates asked members in the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries to effectively adhere to their output quota in the light of the current circumstances in the Gulf region," WAM said. The UAE and Saudi Arabia are among key producers with spare capacity as traders scramble for oil. World oil prices started to their highest level in more than four years after Iraq, feeling the pinch of a U.S.-led embargo cut its exports by half and Kuwait's production halted. The agency said UAE Oil Minister Mana Said Al Oteiba wrote to OPEC President Sadek Bouziane of Algeria to issue the call to the 13 member-states. He also sent a similar letter to OPEC Secretary-General Subroto of Indonesia. Oteiba's call came shortly after Iran, a price "hawk" urged other OPEC producers not to take advantage of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait to pump more oil for quick profit.

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Mauritanians volunteer for Iraq

NOUAKCHOTT, Mauritania (AP) — While governments worldwide condemned Iraq for its invasion of Kuwait, dozens of Mauritanians flocked to the Iraqi embassy Monday to volunteer to fight for Saddam Hussein. The surge of applications to join the "People's Army" in Kuwait coincided with a visit by Iraqi Transport Minister Mohammad Hanza Al Zubidi to thank the country for refusing to join a majority of Arab League members in condemning Iraq. Zubidi was received by the Mauritanian head of state, Maouya Ahmad Taya. A report by the state-run Mauritanian News Agency said the two men discussed "the measures taken by Iraq to support the revolutionary government in Kuwait." It was the first time the Mauritanian media had made any mention of the invasion. Iraq was the only Arab state to support Mauritania during its recent border conflict with Senegal. A spokesman at the Iraqi embassy said officials in Baghdad had been informed about Mauritanians seeking to serve with the Iraqi-installed army in Kuwait. He said the embassy might proceed to register volunteers, but there was no indication the Mauritanian government would allow them to go.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Times Foundation

جريدة الأردن تنشر يومياً مسليمة مكتوبة باللغة العربية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية - الرأي

King, UAE leader exchange views

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein had a telephone conversation Monday with the president of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahayan, on the latest developments in the Gulf region. The UAE president thanked the King for his efforts to end the Iraq-Kuwait dispute and enquired about the latest developments. He also discussed efforts being made in order to find an Arab solution to the crisis that can prevent foreign intervention in the Gulf region.

Yemeni leader in hospital

SANA (R) — Yemeni President Ali Abdallah Saleh, who has been shuttling between Arab capitals to try to resolve the Iraq-Kuwait crisis, entered hospital Monday. Radio Sanaa said Saleh went to the hospital for a medical check-up and diplomats said he was apparently suffering from exhaustion. Saleh has visited Iraq. He later flew to Saudi Arabia and Egypt which are also mediating to resolve the crisis. The radio said the Yemeni leader had talks on the Gulf crisis earlier Monday with an envoy of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, National Assembly Speaker Saadi Mehdi Saleh.

Homeless Israelis ask U.S. for refugee status

TEL AVIV (R) — Angry Israelis made homeless by a flood of Soviet immigration protested Monday at the U.S. consulate in Arab Jerusalem demanding that the United States accept them as refugees. "The housing ministry and the Israeli government are not able to absorb people like me," a woman demonstrator said in a radio broadcast. Rising housing costs in response to the immigration wave have forced hundreds of native Israelis out of their apartments in the last few months. About 20 homeless joined the protest demanding refugee status as immigrants to the United States.

Bashir opens talks on Sudan's future

KHARTOUM (AP) — Sudan's military ruler Monday inaugurated a 75-day conference which will discuss the form of the country's future political system. The conference's 500 participants, nominated by the government, chanted slogans calling for a system of Islamic consultation. Omar Hassan Al Bashir dissolved all political parties in Sudan when he took power in a military coup June 30, 1989. He has blamed them for the country's woes and has vowed never to revive them. Bashir urged the conference to avoid "the shortcomings of the previous political system." The conference is scheduled to end on Oct. 21.

Sheikh Jaber sends envoys to capitals

GENEVA (R) — The emir of Kuwait has sent envoys to various world capitals to reassure Kuwaiti nationals in the wake of the Iraqi take-over and to request their solidarity, the Kuwait diplomatic mission in Geneva said Monday. As part of that drive, a representative of Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah spoke to about 200 Kuwaitis in an emotional meeting at the mission on Sunday, a source at the meeting said.

Sudan denies Chad charges

KHARTOUM (AP) — The Sudanese military government Monday denied Chadian allegations it was assembling an army of mercenaries with Libya and preparing to attack Chad. General Al Tigani Adam Al Tahir, a member of Sudan's ruling military council, described the Chadian government claims, made Wednesday, as "sheer, void allegations." Tahir's denial followed a similar one made by Libya a day after the Chadian accusations. Chad had accused Libya and Sudan of assembling an army of dissidents and mercenaries to launch a war against it rather than pursue negotiations.

Iraqis expect U.S. attack

Saddam Hussein warns Bush, says Iraq wants normal relations ● S. Arabia denies troop build-up on border ● Cheney in Jeddah

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq prepared to evacuate the capital and distributed weapons Monday in anticipation of an American attack, while warning that international sanctions against Iraq could delay Baghdad's troop pull-out from Kuwait.

In Saudi Arabia, U.S. Secretary of Defence Richard Cheney arrived in Jeddah Monday for talks with his counterpart Prince Sultan and other senior Saudi government figures.

Cheney was accompanied by Lieutenant-General H. Norman Schwarzkopf, head of the U.S. Middle East force known as the

Central Command. Richard Gates, deputy national security advisor, and Paul Wolfowitz, deputy defence secretary, were also with him.

Gulf-based diplomats said soldiers from the American rapid deployment force, formed to react to crises in the Middle East, had been dispatched to the area.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported that President Saddam Hussein met with U.S. Charge d'Affaires April Glaspius to deliver a warning to President Bush.

INA said he "warned against any act that might endanger the region's peace and security."

It was the first statement from the Iraqi president the news agency distributed since the invasion last Thursday. Most communication links with the country have been severed.

The president said that Iraq wanted to preserve peace in the region but confirmed "Iraq's capability to protect its sovereignty, interests and rights and its high and unlimited readiness to sacrifice for their protection, disregarding the degree of pressure or threats."

He denied that Iraq had any plans to attack Saudi Arabia, noting the non-aggression treaty

between the two, said INA, which said Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz attended the meeting.

The president suggested the reports about Iraqi troops massing near Saudi Arabia were "fabrications that would be used as an excuse for intervening in the region's affairs and to justify an attack against Iraq."

"Iraq and Saudi Arabia are tied by a non-aggression and non-interference pact and... Iraq respects its commitments," the agency quoted the president as saying during the meeting.

(Continued on page 3)

Security Council votes Iraq sanctions

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The U.N. Security Council overwhelmingly approved, including a ban on oil purchase.

The 15-member council voted 13-0, with two abstentions by Cuba and Yemen, to adopt the sanctions resolution proposed by the United States. It said Iraq had launched an armed attack against Kuwait and usurped the authority of the legitimate government.

The sanctions were intended to force Iraq to withdraw its troops from Kuwait.

The resolution bans member nations from providing financial or economic resources to Iraq or to any commercial, industrial or public utility in Iraq or Kuwait. An exception was made for payments intended strictly for medical or humanitarian purposes.

It called upon all nations to "take appropriate measures to protect assets of the legitimate government of Kuwait and its agencies; and not to recognise any regime set up by the occupying power."

The resolution bans "the import into their territories of all commodities and products originating in Iraq or Kuwait and exported therefrom after the date of this resolution."

U.N. resolutions are legally binding on all U.N. members, although they often are flouted or ignored. The United Nations has

no enforcement mechanism but later could call on members to take military action against Iraq or impose a blockade.

It was the third time in its 45-year existence that the world body had voted sanctions against a member state. The last time was 1967 when the Security Council voted similar, comprehensive sanctions against the white minority government of Rhodesia. An arms embargo against South Africa still is in effect.

The council also formed a special committee to monitor compliance with the measures and called for U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuello to report within 30 days on the implementation of the resolution.

The council acted less than five days after Iraqi troops swept into Kuwait, installed a government backed by a "popular army."

Hours after the invasion, in a 14-to-zero vote last Thursday, condemned Iraq's action and demanded the immediate, unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi troops.

Yemen declined to take part in last Thursday's vote, saying it had received instructions.

The sanctions resolution, elements of which have already been implemented by several major powers, flatly rejects Iraq's report

(Continued on page 4)

Bush said planning covert action to topple Iraq leader

WASHINGTON (Agencies) —

President George Bush has ordered government agencies to draw up plans for possible covert action to topple President Saddam Hussein of Iraq, the Washington Post reported Monday. Senior administration officials appeared to confirm the effort.

Bush initiated the effort after receiving a Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) evaluation that President Hussein already was in a position to manipulate world oil prices, the newspaper said, quoting informed sources.

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Fitzwater said.

Defence Secretary Dick Cheney and other top U.S. Defense officials opened talks Monday in Jeddah with Saudi officials on "appropriate ways to defend their country."

The White House took the unusual step of saying there were "significant inaccuracies" in a Washington Post newspaper report that Bush had ordered U.S. intelligence agents to launch a covert campaign to destabilize and topple Hussein.

The White House, calling it in the U.S. "national interest to stop Saddam Hussein," said Monday it was moving on diplomatic and military fronts to try to force the Iraqi president to withdraw Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

Bush is sending Secretary of State James Baker to Turkey Wednesday or Thursday to consult with Turkish President Turgut Ozal about the crisis, White House Press Secretary Marin

(Continued on page 3)

Oil price surges, stocks tumble over Gulf crisis

LONDON (R) — Oil prices surged and world stock values

plunged Monday on financial markets stampeded by fears of wider conflict in the Gulf.

But the dollar, which investors initially saw as a safe haven when Iraq took over Kuwait at dawn last Thursday, took a tumble because of growing concern that the U.S. economy could be heading for the rocks of recession.

Media reports that Saudi Arabian troops were seen moving towards the frontier with Iraq kindled fresh worries that the conflict could widen, pitting the kingdom against the battlefield might of Iraq.

Oil prices took off as soon as

Western financial centres reopened after a nervous weekend.

Crude oil prices around Asia were marked up \$3 a barrel and that increase was topped after European centres opened for business.

North Sea Brent, the most widely traded international crude, added \$3.50 to be talked around \$26.45 a barrel for

September loading, close to 4½ year highs.

The prospect of an oil shortage because of a Western boycott of Iraqi exports gave crude prices an extra twist. "It has been absolute pandemonium," said Peter Gignoux, a London-based director with trading house Shearson Lehman Hutton.

Dearer oil would mean higher

inflation for the West. The

prospect sent jitters through stock

exchanges from Tokyo to Wall

Street and Singapore to Stock-

holm.

The Nikkei stock average tumbled

916.23 points or 3.1 per cent

to 28,599.53 after a 729.42 point

slide Friday.

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Iraq cuts oil flow through Turkey

ANKARA (Agencies) — With

an international embargo cutting down on customs for its oil, Iraq Monday stopped pumping crude through one of its pipelines in Turkey and reduced the flow in the other.

An official of the state-run Turkish pipeline company Botas said pumping stopped at one of the two pipelines at 5 p.m. (1400 GMT).

It also reduced flow in the second, wider, pipeline to 70 per cent of capacity.

The United States, the European Community (EC), Japan and several other countries had imposed an embargo on Iraqi oil purchases following Iraq's take-over of Kuwait last week.

The Iraqi decision came after tankers waiting to be loaded at the terminal of the pipeline had sailed away without loading in compliance with the embargo, according to pipeline company

A Botas official said all the

countries participating in the

embargo purchase their Iraqi

crude from the Turkish outlet.

The two pipelines pump Iraqi

crude from the Kirkuk oilfields in

<

Arafat, Mubarak said to discuss Gulf plan

CAIRO (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat held talks with Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak Monday over a plan diplomats say links an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait with territorial and financial gains for Baghdad.

"I prefer to be silent," Arafat said when asked about a plan to end the crisis and draw up in consultation with Arab leaders, notably Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, Libya's Muammar Qaddafi and Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

The plan, Arab diplomats said, includes a proposal for elections in Kuwait to choose a new government in the wake of an Iraqi troop withdrawal.

They said that in return for a complete Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and free elections in the emirate, it was proposed that Iraq would receive Kuwaiti payments as well as control of the strategic Bubiyan Island.

Bubiyan, under Kuwaiti sovereignty, dominates the Khor Abdallah waterway at the head of the Gulf.

Mubarak, along with other Arab leaders, has been anxious to secure an Arab solution to Thursday's invasion without outside intervention.

But there was no official confirmation of the set of proposals when Arafat finished his talks with Mubarak at a seaside restau-

rant near Alexandria.

The situation is very critical and President Hosni Mubarak is holding intensive contacts with his brothers the leaders of Arab states to explore possible avenues of movement to take us out of this crisis," Arafat's top aide Osama Al-Baz told reporters.

Arafat arrived from Baghdad for the second round of talks with Mubarak in two days. Baz said Arafat, flying aboard an Iraqi jet, would go on an Arab tour to brief Arab leaders.

During the 1980-88 war with Iran, Baghdad pleaded with Kuwait for the use or hire of Bubiyan Island as a springboard for attacks on Iranian forces occupying the Fao Peninsula.

In another development, Iraqi Ambassador to Egypt Nabil Negm said Monday that relations between Cairo and Baghdad were good, despite Egypt's condemnation of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

Negm was speaking to reporters after being summoned to a meeting with Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid.

"What we are concerned with is having clear and brotherly ties with Egypt," Negm said. "Our ties with Egypt are good and will continue to be as they were."

Egypt, linked with Iraq in the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC), has condemned Bagh-

dad's invasion of Kuwait and demanded an unconditional and immediate withdrawal of its troops.

Abdul Meguid later told reporters the Foreign Ministry had called in Negm to ensure that Egyptians in Kuwait were being well treated.

"My meeting with Negm focused on the treatment of Egyptians in Kuwait and Egypt's concern that they get all necessary protection and care," Abdul Meguid said.

"I informed the ambassador... that... there have been some accidents. We feel that the Iraqi leadership would never agree to any acts against Egyptian nationals... in a brotherly Arab country," Abdul Meguid added.

There are believed to be several thousand Egyptians living and working in Kuwait. Cairo said last week that five Egyptians were wounded in the invasion.

Negm denied that Iraqis were leaving Cairo and said a plane load of Iraqis who left Egypt Monday were tourists whose holidays had ended.

Egypt's national Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported that 140 Iraqis had left Cairo for Jordan.

Quoting an Iraqi Airways official, MENA said the Iraqis would travel from Amman to Baghdad by road.

Kuwaiti tourists stranded in Austria

VIENNA (AP) — Many Kuwaiti tourists, caught unaware by the Iraqi invasion, have found themselves stranded without access to cash to pay hotel bills or buy plane tickets after Kuwaiti assets were frozen.

In Vienna, some 1,000 tourists from Kuwait were faced with sudden financial problems, the Kuwaiti embassy reported.

Following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, the United States and other countries froze Kuwaiti assets to prevent Iraq from seizing them. Austria also froze all Kuwaiti accounts, including personal accounts.

The embassy spokesman, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said tourists from his country of 1.9 million faced similar problems around the world.

"They can't stay in Austria, but sometimes also don't have the money to leave or to pay their bills," the spokesman said.

On Monday, the Kuwaiti mission to the United Nations in Geneva issued a statement saying: "His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, has called on representatives to travel to capitals where there are Kuwaiti nationals to reassure them and deal with their problems. Kuwaiti representatives have urged citizens to pull together and cooperate with each other."

The spokesman in the Kuwaiti's embassy in Geneva refused to comment on the amount of funds available to help stranded Kuwaitis.

Luxury hotels in Vienna showed understanding towards the stranded tourists, as many were regular customers. An official of one hotel said that a letter of credit was sufficient to overcome the difficulties of settling the bill.

In Geneva, Kuwaiti mission spokesman Abd Al Aziz Abu Zeid said that Kuwaiti tourists in Switzerland had so far not experienced any financial problems.

Israeli youths found killed

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Searchers on Monday found two stabbed and tied bodies of Jewish teenagers last seen hitch-hiking to a settlement in the occupied West Bank, and police promptly blamed the slayings on Palestinians.

The killings sparked riots by dozens of angry Israelis who stopped Arab-owned cars on highways and showered them with rocks and cinderblocks. At least six Palestinians were injured and dozens of car windows were smashed, police said.

In one case, demonstrators trapped and stoned a Palestinian bus, forcing the about 70 passengers to lie on the floor, an Associated Press reporter saw. One passenger had a bloodied head.

Police stood 10 metres away and did not detain anyone.

Hundreds of police, soldiers and civilian volunteers have searched for 17-year-old Lior Tubul and 18-year-old Ronen Karamani since they disappeared Saturday night. Both youths are from West Jerusalem.

Their slayings brought 47 the number of Israelis killed in the 31-month Palestinian uprising. The last victim was an elderly man killed May 28 in a bombing in an outdoor Jerusalem market.

A group of teenagers found the bodies at about 13:30 p.m. (1030 GMT) Monday in a dry river bed near the Jewish neighbourhood of Ramot, in Arab Jerusalem.

The army promptly clamped a curfew on the nearby village of Beit Hanina, which is just beyond the city limits in the West Bank.

No suspects were immediately detained.

Tabul and Karamani were last seen Saturday evening on the outskirts of Ramot. They had told friends they were headed to the West Bank settlement Givat Ze'ev, about five kilometres away to visit girlfriends.

In southern Jerusalem, Israeli protesters stoned cars with West Bank license plates on a main thoroughfare, smashing 15 windows, police said.

News of the slayings sparked

violence seemed certain to feature in talks between Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in Washington this week — until Baker abruptly put off their meeting because of the crisis over Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

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MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Kuwait workers told to return to jobs

NICOSIA (R) — Kuwait's new Iraqi-installed administration told employees in essential services Monday to report back for work, following a relaxation of the curfew. Baghdad Radio said the "provisional free Kuwait government" told workers at bakeries, food stores, hospitals and pharmacies, petrol, power and water installations and telecommunications centres, to work normally. The radio, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Colonel Alaa Hussein Ali, prime minister and acting interior minister, as saying security had now been established. He said the return-to-work order was "in line with my decision to lift the curfew from seven a.m. till seven p.m."

Iraqi minister visits Djibouti

DIJBOUTI (R) — Iraqi Interior Minister Sameer Mohammad Abdul-Wahab paid a brief visit to Djibouti on Sunday, officials said on Monday. Abdul-Wahab met Prime Minister Gourat Hamadou, but the officials gave no details of their talks.

SLA fights Sidon militia

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon, (R) — Pro-Israeli militiamen fought artillery battles with fighters in South Lebanon on Monday, killing two of them, security sources said. They said the clashes between the South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia and the Popular Liberation Army (PLA) broke out at dawn at the Kfar Falouq frontline southeast of the port city of Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut. Two PLA men were killed in the four-hour artillery and mortar battles, the first between the two forces in a few months. Kfar Falouq separates the Sidon area — a stronghold for guerrillas — from Israel's self-declared "security zone" in South Lebanon, patrolled by some 3,500 SLA and about 1,000 Israeli soldiers.

Minor earthquake shakes Ankara

ANKARA, Aug (R) — An earthquake registering 4.6 on the open-ended Richter scale shook Ankara on Sunday but there were no reports of casualties. Turkey's Anatolian news agency said. It said the epicentre of the quake, which hit at 21:32 p.m. (1832 GMT) was Ankara.

Habre accuses Libya of planning attack

N'DJAMENA (R) — President Hissene Habre of Chad has again accused Libya, with which it fought a long desert war, of planning to attack his country. He told the first session of Chad's new 123-member national assembly, elected last month, that Libya was preparing to send "a horde of mercenaries" against its southern neighbour. The two countries agreed in August last year to resolve their conflict over the Aouzou Strip, a border desert area annexed by Libya in 1973, within a year. But relations have deteriorated as the Aug. 31 deadline approaches. A week ago, Libya denied Chad's charges that it had used the agreement as a pretext to build up its forces. It said Chad's claims and media campaigns showed N'djamena did not want a solution. Two days later, Chad accused Libya and Sudan, its eastern neighbour, of preparing a major offensive from Sudanese territory.

Spain seeks envoy's return to Kuwait

MADRID (AP) — Spain has requested that Iraq permit its ambassador to enter Kuwait from Saudi Arabia to take charge of Spain's embassy there, a foreign ministry spokesman said. Spanish Ambassador to Kuwait Juan Jose Arribalzaga remained stranded at the Saudi border with Kuwait Sunday, said the spokesman. The Iraqi military take-over took place while the Spanish ambassador was on vacation, and Iraqi troops posted at Kuwait's border with Saudi Arabia have refused to permit his return. The spokesman also said the 83 Spaniards, including 15 businessmen, remaining in the Kuwaiti capital were unharmed and living in city hotels, the spokesman said. The Spanish embassy personnel have also taken responsibility for Latin Americans stranded in the Kuwaiti capital during the Iraqi invasion, the spokesman said. He said the embassy is sheltering 12 Argentine citizens, most of them businessmen.

Kuwaiti tourists stranded in the Hague

AMSTERDAM, (R) — Some 100 Kuwaiti tourists, out of cash and unable to fly back to their country which is taken-over by Iraq, are stranded in a luxury beach-side hotel in the Hague, a hotel spokeswoman said on Monday. The tourists, many of whom arrived independently in the Dutch coast for their summer holidays, were unwilling to talk to journalists "in the interest of their personal safety," the Atlantic hotel spokeswoman added. A spokesman said the Kuwaiti embassy would help the tourists financially and issue travel documents. Some of the tourists wanted to return to Kuwait while others would go to another Arab country. "I expect this ordeal to be over in a few days," he said.

ICRC appeals for hostage release

BEIRUT, (AP) — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) held a small parking lot demonstration Monday to observe the tenth month of the abduction of two of its Swiss colleagues with renewed appeals for their release. Emmanuel Christen and Elio Enriques were kidnapped last Oct. 6 outside the ICRC's artificial limbs centre in South Lebanon's port city of Sidon, where the two were held for ransom. Dozens of ICRC field delegates and Lebanese employees as well as their children and those of their friends gathered at the parking lot of the ICRC's headquarters in west Beirut for the occasion. "Please release Elio and Emmanuel. The victims need their humanitarian help," read placards plastered on all 36 ICRC cars in the parking lot. Red and white balloons with Christen's and Enriques' portraits flew from the cars. "We reiterate our appeal calling for the immediate release of our two colleagues," said Arthur Bisig, head of the ICRC delegation in Lebanon. "We have gathered today to strongly express our support and our feeling of solidarity towards all people reported missing."

With its forces firmly in control of Kuwait on Friday, Iraq's ruling Revolutionary Command Council had pledged to begin its phased withdrawal Sunday unless new threats emerged to the security of Iraq or Kuwait.

The Iraqi News Agency said the day-long "withdrawal operation" started at 8 a.m. (0400 GMT). The official spokesman for Iraq's general command gave no figures on how many troops left Kuwait but said more units would come out on Tuesday.

Baghdad Radio at the same time said Hussein had ordered the formation of 11 new army divisions under a timetable that an armed forces communiqué said "should conform with the political and military developments."

The armoured column included 73 personnel carriers and tanks, strapped aboard huge transport trucks.

They were not sure whether their sons or brothers would be among those heading home but had come a long way on the chance they would find them safe and sound.

Heated in the other direction was a queue of 15 lorries of Kuwaitis, including women and children, who were hoping that the Safwan crossing would be reopened to regular traffic so they could return to their own homes.

Tokyo Sunday imposed an embargo on oil imports from Iraq and Kuwait and a ban on exports to both countries. It froze all Kuwaiti and Iraqi assets in Japan and halted economic cooperation with Iraq.

Tokyo also said it would take necessary steps to ensure the safety of Japanese nationals.

The Iraqi News Agency said's Foreign Ministry official told reporters from India, Pakistan, Thailand, Sri Lanka and the Philippines in Baghdad, Friday that Iraqi troops in Kuwait had been ordered to take particular care of foreign civilians.

The Philippine embassy in Baghdad said in a cable received in Manila Monday that Iraqi troops detained several Filipino workers as well as British, American, Canadian and Indian nationals during their invasion of Kuwait.

Iran, Syria to cooperate in Gulf

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said Monday Syria and Iran would not remain indifferent to Iraq's take-over of Kuwait.

Speaking to reporters before leaving for Tehran following talks with Syrian President Hafez Al-Assad on the issue, Velayati said both Syria and Iran wanted a full withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait.

"We are opposed to the intrusion of Iraq into Kuwait," he told reporters at Beijing's airport before leaving for a tour of South-east Asia.

"As for the next step, we will support mediation by the Arab League and the United Nations to end the ban on arms sales to Iraq,"

Velayati was admiring that some forms of international sanctions were necessary, the premier said.

"These are different matters. Under such circumstances it is only natural that China, will not sell arms to Iraq."

The hardline premier, who is closely linked to China's decision to bring in troops to crush political dissent last year, flies to Indonesia to cap a restoration of relations frozen for 23 years.

He will also visit Singapore, where he is expected to pave the way for the establishment of diplomatic ties, and Thailand, for talks with government leaders in Cambodia.

Asked about diplomatic relations with Singapore, Li said: "There are no major problems standing in the way of the establishment of diplomatic relations between our countries ... as for the specific time (of restoring) relations, I don't think it is too far away."

North Korea Monday said it hoped for a peaceful resolution of the Iraq-Kuwait conflict, Japan's Radio reported.

"Neighbouring Iraq and Kuwait should peacefully resolve their conflict for the benefit of the people of both countries," an editorial in North Korea's Workers' Party newspaper said.

The paper is designed as reflecting the official line of North Korean leaders.

The editorial was reported by the Korean Central News Agency, and picked up by Radiopress, which monitors broadcasts and dispatches from communist countries.

The convoy also included six trucks mounted with what appeared to be Soviet-designed scud surface-to-surface missiles and two trucks carrying anti-aircraft missiles followed.

More than 20 mainly civilian-clad members of the popular army, being formed by Kuwait's Iraqi-installed government, brandished Kalashnikov assault rifles as they stood guard in the unpopulated area miles from the nearest town.

Helicopter gunships circled the area as the armoured column moved slowly northwards.

A dozen Baghdad-based reporters were taken on an eight-hour drive from the capital to witness the border crossing in a tour arranged by the Ministry of Culture and Information.

Among those who withstood the withering heat to witness the return were people who told Reuters they were relatives of soldiers sent to Kuwait.

They were not sure whether their sons or brothers would be among those heading home but had come a long way on the chance they would find them safe and sound.

Heated in the other direction was a queue of 15 lorries of Kuwaitis, including women and children, who were hoping that the Safwan crossing would be reopened to regular traffic so they could return to their own homes.

Another 307 Japanese were in Iraq for business or other longer-term reasons, the Foreign Ministry official said. A second ministry official said Monday that an estimated 272 Japanese were in Kuwait.

Shreideh announces women's federation executive committee

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Social Development Abdal Majid Shreideh Monday announced the members of the executive committee of the General Federation of Jordanian Women (GFJW) as elected at last Friday's meeting in Amman.

The committee is chaired by Mahiedeh Zainelli and includes the following members: Iman Abdul Odeh Arabyat, Basma Helou, Sakaa Abdul Aziz Al Majali, Fideh Badran, Abeer Al Akhras, Mariam Shamim, Hafida Kamal and Halimah Al Ami.

The nine members, the minis-

ter said, were elected unopposed as a result of boycott by activists.

He also announced the names of eight other women who, he said, would also serve as additional members of the executive committee because they are heads of GFJW's branches around the country. These are: Amal Amoush from Mafraq, Amal Wahdan from Zarqa, Rihab Al Majali from Karak, Samirah Hesnoud from Irbid, Salwa Abdul Odeh from Balqa, Munira Touqan from Maan, Nawa Rabab'a from Tafleah and Hiyam Al Taber from Amman.

The committee is chaired by Mahiedeh Zainelli and includes the following members: Iman Abdul Odeh Arabyat, Basma Helou, Sakaa Abdul Aziz Al Majali, Fideh Badran, Abeer Al Akhras, Mariam Shamim, Hafida Kamal and Halimah Al Ami.

The nine members, the minis-

JEPCO, workers' union dispute remains unresolved

By Ghadeer Taher
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Jordan Electric Power Company (JEPCO) and the Electricity Workers' Union failed to resolve their three-month old dispute in their second joint meeting Monday.

"We accepted the government formula but the company did not," Walid Khayyat, head of the electricity union, said Monday. The Ministry of Labour last week tabled a formula which involved a compromise on salary increases sought by almost 2,000 employees and an endorsement of demands for administrative reforms and other workers' rights.

The union president said the company refused to increase salaries according to the government formula and was only willing to give a JD 5 cost of living allowance increase across the board. The company is not willing to adopt the government and union position on salaries because an increase in the basic salary would result in higher compound wages.

The government formula

proposes increases of JD 8 for each employee falling under grades 15 to eight (against JD 12 sought by the union), JD 5 for grades seven to five (against JD 8 demanded by the union) and JD 3 for grades four to one.

The ministry supported a union demand for a straight JD 20 increase for unclassified employees, who now make about JD 54 every month. Minister of Labour Qaseem Obeidat estimated that the proposed increase would cost the company approximately JD 30,000 annually.

According to Khayyat, the minister, who chaired the joint meeting Monday, gave the company and the union three days to reassess their positions before holding another meeting Thursday.

Obeidat said last week that the compromise formula was the ministry's "final position" on the dispute. "If it (the compromise formula) is rejected then the issue will go to arbitration the strike will be considered illegal.

Khayyat said workers' wages were low and that 1,640 employees get a basic salary of less than JD 150. "Of the 1,640 (workers), 1,006 get a basic salary of less than JD 100. Company officials were not available for comment.

to an industrial court if arbitration failed," the minister said.

The union, however, has threatened to strike Aug. 15 if their demands are not met. "We will cooperate fully to try to reach an agreement," Khayyat said. "But if we do not agree we will stop work as of Aug. 15." According to a Ministry of Labour official once the dispute goes to arbitration the strike will be considered illegal.

The compromise formula proposed by the ministry also provides for setting up a panel of three legal experts — representing the Ministry of Labour, JEPCO and the union — to draw up a legal framework for the company's personnel and salary structure to be submitted to the board of JEPCO.

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tioning air in and around the capital revealing heavy pollution of the atmosphere especially around the city centre which is normally congested by traffic.

According to CEHA the training course aims primarily at raising the level of knowledge of the participants in selected technical and legislative aspects of air pollution and its control.

They also visited the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) where they inspected the environmental and air pollution laboratories and the downtown air pollution monitoring station.

Earlier the participants discussed the subject of air pollution control and environmental impact of air pollution and its assessment and air pollution and human health.

The discussions and the tours came on the third day of a six-day meeting which was organised at the Amman-based Centre for Environmental Health Activities (CEHA) by the World Health Organisation (WHO) in cooperation with the Health Ministry.

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Queen meets Indonesian minister

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Her Majesty Queen Noor Monday received at Al Ma'wa Palace the Indonesian Minister of State for Women's Affairs Sulasikin Murpratomo and her accompanying delegation. Present at the meeting were the Indonesian Ambassador to Jordan, Mr. Sumaryo and his wife, and Director General of Noor Al Hussein Foundation, Mrs. In'am Al Mufti.

The visiting Indonesian minister was also received by Minister of Labour Qaseem Obeidat who discussed with her Jordanian-Indonesian cooperation in matters related to women.

The two sides also reviewed prospects for cooperation in labour-related fields and socio-economic development.

AMMAN — Leaders of Jordanian unions and professional associations have joined the rising tide of anti-American sentiment by issuing a call for public support for a boycott of all American products and dealing with agents of U.S.-made products.

In an atmosphere filled with anger over what participants saw as a U.S.-led campaign of condemnation of Iraq over its take-over of Kuwait, a bulletin prepared by the Public Freedoms Committee of the professional association, made available to the press said: "We protest the steps taken by the U.S. Administration against the Palestinian and Arab people."

The bulletin said that the call to boycott American products came in response to proposals made by the Jordanian Writers Association and in accordance with popular demand. The bulletin suggested the adoption of the following resolutions: a call on all unions and professional associations to boycott all U.S.-made materials, supplies and products; a call to boycott all agents of American products in Jordan and abroad; a call on all unions and professional associations in the Arab World to follow suit; a call on the Jordanian media to begin a campaign to support the boycott.

An address delivered on behalf of the WHO regional director said that member states of the Eastern Mediterranean region were faced with a wide array of environmental hazards which might have acute or chronic effects on the health of its population.

Earlier the participants discussed the subject of air pollution control and environmental impact of air pollution and its assessment and air pollution and human health.

These, he said, include environmental pollutants and hazardous substances which, if not controlled, can increase in number and severity due to industrialisation, urbanisation and development in general.

Countries represented are Jordan, Syria, Sudan, Iran, Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco.

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) has set up an independent committee to take charge of the management of the Jordan Gulf Bank and to supervise its performance prior to restructuring the bank's capital in order to allow it to function normally. CBJ Governor Mohammad Saeed Nabulsi announced Monday.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Nabulsi said that the committee was supervising the Jordan Gulf Bank's operations, and assuming the authorities of a board of directors in accordance with the Jordanian companies' law.

Nabulsi said Americans should "understand that the people of the great leader Saddam Hussein cannot be frightened."

France put its armed forces on full alert as the government said it expected an American military intervention.

Saudi Mehdie Saleh, commander of the Popular Army in Iraq, told the local Baghdad newspaper Al Iraq that tens of thousands of volunteers have joined the Iraqi Popular Army to defend what he called "Iraq and the revolution in Kuwait."

Saleh said Americans should "understand that the people of the great leader Saddam Hussein cannot be frightened."

The newspaper's warning came amid widespread speculation in Iraq that the United States would launch a full-scale military operation against Iraq.

Local members of the ruling Baath Party said they have been instructed by government and party officials to be prepared to leave their homes and neighbourhoods immediately when given a warning broadcast over state-run radio and television.

The party members said preparations were under way to evacuate the entire four million population of Baghdad to camps outside the city in the event of attack.

They were being told that the U.S. air force might attack the city or that Israel might attack with chemical or nuclear weapons.

France's Foreign Minister Roland Dumas said at the start of the crisis last week that Iraq owed France 24 billion francs (\$4.5 billion), 14 billion (\$2.6 billion) of which were for military supplies.

France, in company with its Western allies, has cut off arms supplies to Iraq, banned petroleum imports from Iraq and Kuwait and frozen the assets of both countries.

Gulf diplomats said Iraqi troops were believed rounding up foreigners in Kuwait, and might be holding them hostage in case of any military attack against Iraq. It was not known how many foreigners were included.

European nations said the action was apparently directed at foreign visitors staying in hotels and not permanent residents.

The British Foreign Office said they said the deployment in the so-called neutral zone shared with Kuwait occurred during the past 48 hours.

Diplomats who had visited the border area near Saudi Arabia reported that the Iraqi armed forces had dug up the highway that runs into Saudi Arabia, severing an escape route used by thousands immediately after the invasion.

A Foreign Office spokesman said "We are trying to establish the precise details now," said the spokesman. "There is no evidence that they are in any way in trouble."

The Foreign Office said it was still negotiating with Iraq for the release of 35 British military advisors taken to Iraq over the weekend.

The West German Foreign Ministry demanded that West Germany be allowed to return home.

Refineries and other oil facilities were operational at least 50 per cent of capacity, but appeared to be producing only for domestic purposes, Gulf diplomats said.

Kuwait's oil export facilities are shut down and will remain so for some time, the Middle East Economic Survey said in Nicosia.

The assessment was among the first to spell out the existence of a total shutdown in Kuwaiti oil supplies, not just now but for some time to come.

World financial markets were again chaotic Monday due to events in the Gulf.

Oil prices jumped over \$3 a barrel Monday on the weekend news of the embargo. Stock prices plummeted in Tokyo, London and New York on fears that higher oil prices would spur inflation and bring higher interest rates.

The dollar was lower on concerns about the effect of high oil prices on

the U.S. economy. Gold edged higher.

Iraq put its armed forces on full alert as the government said it expected an American military intervention.

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Tips of interest to U.S. policy-makers

THE NEWS that was coming out of Washington yesterday was disturbing. President George Bush was beating the drums of war, we were told early in the day. He was requesting people to read his lips when he was asked about using the military option against Iraq. And then he went on to accuse the Iraqis of "lying" and all sorts of things in regard to their commenced withdrawal from Kuwait. The U.S. president even cast doubts about Jordan's position vis-a-vis the Gulf crisis, as if he does not know better.

The news that the American defence secretary flew into Saudi Arabia came next. Why did the man go there? And how did the Saudis receive him at such a time? people wondered. His arrival came at a time when the Americans were, first, beating the drums of war, and second, whipping up a frenzy about an impending invasion of Saudi Arabia by Iraq.

And if the other news about the U.S. and other NATO allies continuing and beefing up their naval build-up in Gulf waters was not enough, there came a dispatch from the Washington Post saying that the Bush Administration had ordered U.S. government agencies to begin planning covert activity to destabilise and eventually topple Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Informed sources were quoted by the newspaper as saying Bush initiated the planning over the past several days after being told by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) that the Iraqi president, already in a position to manipulate world oil prices, was a "ruthless" leader bent on making his country the Arab superpower.

The news was indeed disturbing, but not surprising, given the feverish pitch that the campaign against Iraq and its president had reached, even well before Iraqi forces moved into Kuwait last Thursday.

It was disturbing in the sense that the U.S. has not learned any useful lessons from its past experiences in this area and was bringing the region closer to the point where any miscalculation on the part of any party was bound to set the Middle East ablaze before anybody, including the Americans themselves, knew it. The news was not surprising, however, simply because in its enmity towards Iraq and its government the U.S. was expected to use psychological warfare to demoralise the Iraqi leadership or drive it into doing something that would go against its own interest.

His Majesty King Hussein pointed out in his interview with CBS news' Dan Rather on Sunday that he did not honestly know whether the U.S. would use military force against Iraq in the Gulf. But that if it did, everybody, the man in the street in the forefront, would fight against the Americans.

The experience and foresight that His Majesty possesses are too great for anyone to belittle. We, therefore, think it possible that what might easily pass as psychological warfare could in fact be a precursor for military intervention in the area.

Such an option, as the King stressed in the CBS interview, would be catastrophic and devastating — not only to the people and resources of the Middle East but also to the interests and well-being of humanity as a whole.

Thus the military option has to be ruled out. But if the American Administration does not know how to do it, then Dan Rather should probably re-run the tape of his interview with the King for them. In it there are, for U.S. policy-makers, some very useful tips. Iraq will withdraw from Kuwait within the framework of an Arab settlement that will satisfy all. Iraq will not attack nor invade Saudi Arabia. Saddam Hussein himself said that in an audience with the U.S. charge d'affaires in Baghdad yesterday, Baghdad wants to reach understanding and have normal relations with Washington and the rest of the world based on mutual respect for each other. Again, the Iraqi president personally stated this to the American diplomat on Monday. President Saddam is not a new Hitler, nor is he a loose tiger. He is an Arab patriot whose higher ideal is the service of the Arab peoples and their interests. Attempts to destabilise him would backfire and be harmful to all. All Arabs would come to Iraq's help if attacked by the U.S., Israel or any other foreign power. Those Arabs who will acquiesce in such aggression will be doomed.

The list of useful tips to America is long and may be taxing to most Americans. But it is a must reading for those who make the decisions in the American capital.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily discusses the plight of the Kuwaiti nationals who have been stranded in Jordan and other Arab states and foreign countries because of the events in their country. Mahmoud Al Kayed who is also the editor of Al Ra'i daily says that there is no doubt that this situation has created difficulties for the Kuwaiti nationals or Jordanians and Palestinians spending their holiday in the Kingdom. But, he notes, that thanks to the Jordanian government measures, matters have been arranged for the Kuwaiti and Jordanian expatriates working in Kuwait to benefit from certain plans placed at their disposal until matters clear up and they can once again contact Kuwait or return there. The Jordanian government has offered facilities to the stranded people, making them feel at home, and taking arrangements at the banks, hotel and other institutions to help ease the difficulties for them, the writer notes. He says that it is natural for Jordan and the Jordanian people to act in such manner, because they really cherish respect and affection towards Arab people from all countries.

King: Foreign military action will be fatal

(Continued from page 1)

Could you have one Arab state invading, conquering and occupying another Arab state, though there are those who say there already have been claims?

A: I believe there are certain degrees of crisis. We have not reached the full limit of what can happen in this area. I for one have always stood for inadvisability for the acquisition of territory by force as is my country, and, at the same time this is the principle we have upheld throughout our political life, and we are very sorry this has happened. But I believe there are many signs of (danger) unless there is a solution to the problem that affected millions of people who have just come out of a war that lasted eight years and affects people in the area in general.

What has happened but hopes are that we can somehow resolve this problem within the Arab context and the Kuwaitis and the Iraqis can resolve this once and for all and that there will be a turning point insofar as our relations are concerned in the future. A deeper look into the real problems that exist in this area would enable us to forge together but if pressures continue I am very afraid of the results.

Q: Now to follow on a number of things which you raised, we will first try to establish what the facts are at the moment. Saddam Hussein said he will begin withdrawing his troops today. Is he doing that?

A: As to the best of my knowledge the withdrawal has begun. I do not have any further details today of what has happened so far.

Q: Is it to say that while you believe he has started withdrawal you have no specific evidence or testimony to the fact?

A: To the best of my knowledge at this moment I am aware of the announcement of the withdrawal in the beginning of the withdrawal but I do not have any details what have been going there in the Gulf.

Q: If withdrawal has begun when do you expect it to be completed?

A: The commitment made by Iraq from the very beginning to us that they will begin withdrawal within days and that it would probably take no longer than weeks at the maximum. I really do not know what the time is. However, if there is a threat of external pressure or intervention in the military sense I believe that it could be counter-productive and it could be in a far worse situation than we are facing at the moment.

Q: Do you believe that Mubarak was among those positioning himself and positioning that part of the Arab World he believes he represents in a certain way?

Q: Is it true or not true that the Iraqi forces are massed on the Saudi border?

S: I do not believe it is true.

Q: Is it true or not true that the Iraqi forces have entered the neutral zone or buffer zone?

A: I am not on the ground and do not have any one to advise me of whether it is or otherwise. But Iraq and Saudi Arabia have defined their border and they are long borders. If Iraqi forces were in Kuwait then they would be on the border of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia and if they are beginning to withdraw I hope this would apply to all these forces. If there is a threat of the possible intervention of outsiders I do not know where we will go from here.

Q: You have known Saddam Hussein for a long time. You believe or do not believe that he intends to go into Saudi Arabia?

A: I do not believe he intends to go into Saudi Arabia.

Q: Has he himself told you that?

A: He has told me that.

Q: When was the last time you saw him?

A: Two days ago.

Q: Please give us some sense of not just who and what he is but where is he at the moment psychologically, motivationally where is he and who is he?

A: I believe he is a man who has gone through a very difficult experience who managed to hold his country together for over eight years of war and beyond, who has built his country up, who believes in the Arab World and who seeks to serve it and who is built up as a patriot. I have known him. I believe he has been the target of attacks from many quarters recently. But I believe this was really (a response) to the fact that Iraq represented something new in the area, a sense of a people united, a sense of a people who survived a terrible (and) defending the Arab Order and that represented a threat to some within the area and outside unfortunately. This is where we are at the moment. I do not believe that Saddam Hussein is acting on impulse. He spoke of the situation at the Arab summit before all the Arab leaders describing the situation regarding oil as almost an active war against Iraq...

Q: When was the last time you talked to President Bush?

A: Three days ago from Alexandria.

Q: And, in brief, what did you tell him?

A: We spoke about the situation. He expressed his concern, deep concern, about what was happening and I did tell him that the belief I had, which I still have, was that Iraq was committed to withdraw from Kuwait. And he welcomed that news and he expressed his concern about American lives and I said it was extremely legitimate and so were we.

I spoke to the Iraqi president about American lives and about foreigners in the area and he expressed to me his concern well that he will do everything he could to ensure that they are safe....

Q: You mentioned several times your concern about intimidation. Do you believe there is a real present danger of a military move by the West led by the United States?

A: I believe that there is a danger and I believe the danger is again in receiving again the wrong signals and coming to the wrong conclusions. There has been certainly a world polarisation.

King replied: It has unfortunately involved some of us within the Arab World. We were working very hard to get a summit that could include Iraq and some of us to try to resolve this problem. This has hindered us from doing so. I do not know what the end result would be, but persuasion and good sense would. And my feeling is that we as Arabs ought to have a chance to try our best to resolve this problem.

Q: You spent your lifetime preparing for leadership and exercising leadership, and you can see Bush's situation clearly; he is a peaceful person. On the other hand there are many people who are saying to him, "a tiger is loose around the Persian Gulf." You, Mr. President, have the status of the only person who can keep the tiger from devouring others, so you must move now in a bold, decisive move to match the bold, decisive move of the tiger." That's a powerful argument.

A: There are other tigers in the area that have been loose for a long period of time and what surprises me very much indeed with the recent positive development in the world was that this area's problems were not addressed. Such a tiger exists in our neighbour — Israel — and its continued occupation of the land it has occupied and its annexation of the Syrian Golan and Jerusalem. So there are tigers in the area and maybe one creates another.

Q: Do you believe that Mubarak was among those positioning himself and positioning that part of the Arab World he believes he represents in a certain way?

A: Yes, I do not have any confirmation but what I felt very frankly during the last few days was that there were pressures applied not only to bring the majority in the line but also to even influence Arab logic and decision-making to go along to justify the possibility of some military action on top of economic and other actions in the area and what I am trying to say, and please believe me all, is that intimidation does not work, that it could be counter-productive and it could be in a far worse situation than we are facing at the moment.

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King replied: I told you about the withdrawal. And we believe this has begun, would hopefully continue to (an end) to the occupation of Kuwait. And we believe in the possibility of Iraqis and Kuwaitis resolving this problem with our help and certainly as far as relations between Arab states are concerned they should be utterly reviewed and based on new foundation that would ensure that the reasons that have brought this cease to be and we hope there will be a solution to this problem soon. And every day that passes is an added burden to all of us in this world, including myself. On the other hand I hope the area won't deteriorate into a state of chaos.

I believe a military move would result in damage in this area. I do not believe at the moment that Saudi Arabia is a threat to Iraq and as long as they will continue to have the best of relations and I do not see why any possibility of that could happen. Between Kuwait and Iraq there was a problem. I hope this is the last kind of action that will be taken by any Arab state against Iraq. What I am saying is that there are two sides to the story and we appreciate as such. And although we are against the possession of territory by force and we continue to be. We are trying to repel the damage as soon as we can and I hope we will succeed.

The United States and Bush had to take some action a short while ago against a country that is member of the United Nations as well to the best of my knowledge. And he felt justified in doing so I am speaking of Panama and earlier on Grenada and I am saying why is this case so out of the ordinary? As much as it hurts me, that this has had to happen: Is it

because Arabs are different? Are regarded as such by the rest of the world?

Israel represents a very serious threat at this point in time. I think Israel has done a lot to create the present image of Iraq and its leadership with whatever means available over the years that have caused a lot of anger to be there.

Underneath the surface, there is a lot of anger. There is a feeling that the Arab had not been treated right. It is something that started tens of years ago. It continues and it grows. So do not be under the impression that things are going well. They are not. This is what I feel. I feel what is in the hearts of the majority of Arabs in many many different parts of the Arab World and that is why I agree that this has to be taken into consideration in this crisis and in regard to our relations now and in the future.

I suspect much indeed their motives and I would wish that we move from the area of crisis, wherever a crisis occurs, to try to look deeper and deeper into a problem and to try to help others find solutions to them. That

would be a different Arab World and a different future for it.

Israel represents a very serious threat at this point in time. I think Israel has done a lot to create the present image of Iraq and its leadership with whatever means available over the years that have caused a lot of anger to be there.

So the area is passing through a difficult phase of its life. And the crisis seems to be building up and what we are trying to do is to defend them, to address them as quickly and properly. Otherwise, if let us say there is military intervention it is going to be regarded by the Arabs including myself, as an attempt to destroy this Arab Nation once and for all, and this is what we resent.

This is going to be fought by



A-BOMB DOME: The A-bomb dome, the hollow remains of the former Hiroshima Industrial Promotion Hall, stands in the ruins as a symbol of the destruction of the world's first atom bomb attack.

'That this evil shall never be repeated'

By Janice Fuhrman
The Associated Press

TOKYO — When Hiroshima remembers the atom bomb it is with a flock of doves and a mournful tolling of bells. On the central monument to the bomb victims is a prayer "that this evil shall never be repeated".

Forty-five years after the United States waged the world's first atom bomb attack, Hiroshima continues to lay the grim realities of nuclear war before the world.

But most remembrances of Aug. 6, 1945, in Japan focus on the horror of the instrument of war and the 140,000 deaths it caused, and rarely on the responsibility of the warring nations.

When Hiroshima unveiled a refurbished peace memorial museum last year, 16 groups of citizens, bomb victims and labour unions demanded the city include an "aggressor's corner" that would focus on Japan's role in World War II.

City officials refused the demand. In a written statement, the city quoted former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, who said in 1988 that it was unclear that Japan was an aggressor in World War II.

The purpose of this museum is to bear witness to what happened on Aug. 6 in Hiroshima," said Yoshitaka Kawamoto, president of the museum.

The museum's exhibits call the attack genocide and note that it was aimed at civilians.

Several right-wing groups, such as the Great Japan Patriots Party, also opposed a display on Japan's aggressiveness.

"If we had a display about Japan's aggressive role, people will think it is natural for aggressors to be atom-bombed," said Toru Kataoka, manager of the Peace Culture Centre, which is housed in one of three major buildings at the peace park. "It opposes our basic policy on the museum, which is to pray for the victims."

More than 20,000 of those victims were Koreans, brought here as slave labour during Japan's 35-year colonization of the neighbouring Korean peninsula.

They have seldom been recognized. But a turning point seemed to have come last May when South Korean President Roh Tae-Woo visited Japan, only the second Korean head of state to do so.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu extended to Roh "sincere remorse and honest apologies" for Japanese actions that "inflicted unbearable suffering and sorrow on the people of the Korean peninsula."

During the visit, Japan and Korea agreed to create a 4 billion yen (\$26.8 million) fund for Korean still suffering from bomb-related ailments.

In his annual peace declaration at Monday's ceremony, Mayor Takeshi Araki will for the first time call for financial and medical support for atomic bomb survivors on the Korean peninsula.

But when South Koreans built a monument in 1970 to honour their countrymen who died from

Business protocol — an ingredient of success

For instance, she says, it's a faux pas to talk business over dinner in France. Do so and you'll be seen as an oaf, fair game for some cutting French wit. Similarly, one should never jot down a name or number on a business card in Japan. Such cards are taken very seriously and should not be treated in a cavalier manner.

By Tony Rogers
The Associated Press

BOSTON — At a business dinner in Paris, an American executive scoops up a business card from a Japanese counterpart, scribbles his number on it and hands it to a Saudi Arabian on his left.

Wrong, wrong and wrong, Dorothy Manning would say.

Manning is a cultural consultant whose job is to guide globe-trotting CEO's through the thicket of international customs that can ensnare the best-planned business deal.

For instance, she says, it's a faux pas to talk business over dinner in France. Do so and you'll be seen as an oaf, fair game for some cutting French wit.

Similarly, one should never jot down a name or number on a business card in Japan. Such cards are taken very seriously and should not be treated in a cavalier manner.

In Saudi Arabia, it is the height of poor manners to pass documents with the left hand. Why? The left hand is used for bathroom functions.

"Other countries are small, they depend on external commerce," Manning says. "The Japanese thoroughly study us, and the Europeans grew up in a situation where they have to deal with other countries."

"Up until now we've been so big and strong, it hasn't been necessary," Manning adds.

No more.

With Europe united, the Japanese economic juggernaut steaming ahead and communism crumbling in the East Bloc, American business must compete in an ever-expanding global market. That means plenty of opportunity for consultants like Manning, who charges between about \$350 and \$750 a day per executive.

Frank Mandicott, an international support services manager for General Electric Aerospace in Syracuse, New York, said he has used several

such consultants. Although it can be difficult to persuade corporate management to pay for cultural consulting, he doesn't doubt the value.

"The money is well spent," Mandicott said Monday. "If you go abroad and offend your host and lose the contract, what's the cost of that?"

Manning says the central problem in doing business internationally is establishing trust.

"People tend not to trust each other because they don't understand each other," she says. "If you see someone who dresses differently, who has different customs, you're not sure they're being open with you until you know that's normal for them."

Of course, what's normal from one country to the next can vary quite widely.

For instance, in many Muslim countries, written contracts don't exist. And in Korea, contracts are viewed not as a binding pact but a document from which to depart if conditions change.

Other tips for the international executive:

— Don't send chrysanthemums to a colleague in France. They are a symbol of death.

— Never show the sole of your foot to an associate in Saudi Arabia. Doing so implies you feel you can tread upon someone, and is very insulting.

— Holding up two fingers will get you a cab quickly in the Soviet Union. But think twice before doing so — two fingers mean you'll pay double.

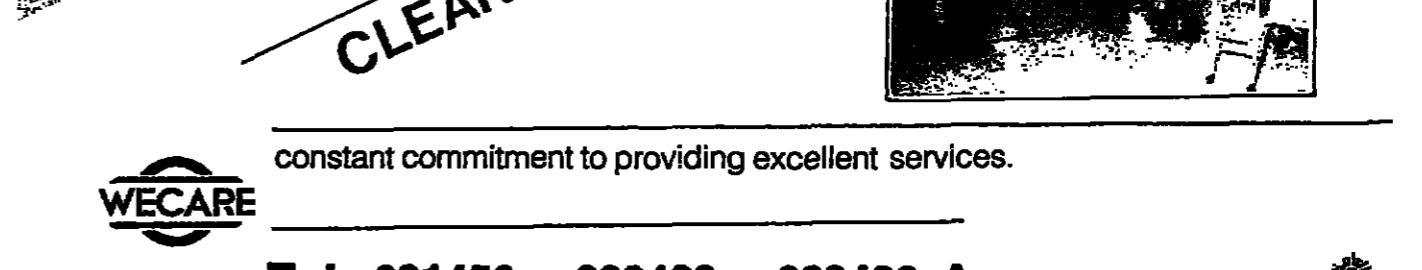
But sometimes even the cultural consultants can err. Manning organised an 8 a.m. breakfast forum on business protocol for international executives.

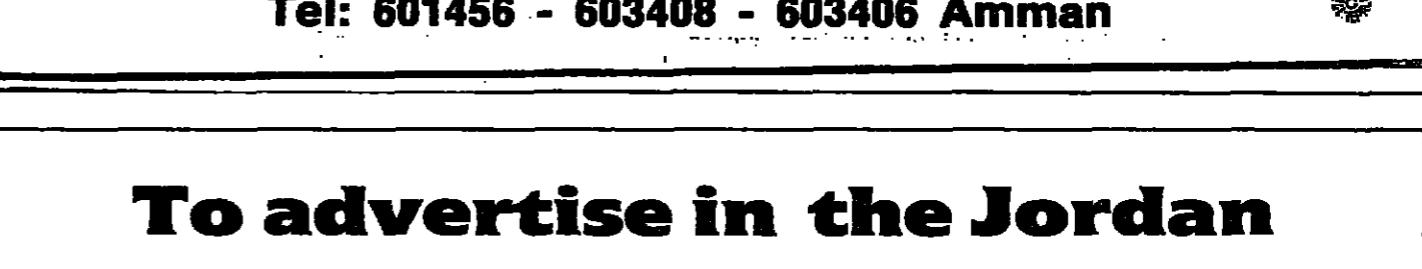
All was well, until she realized that the timing for some might be off.

"The Moroccans brought it up right away," Manning says. "They said they didn't get up that early."



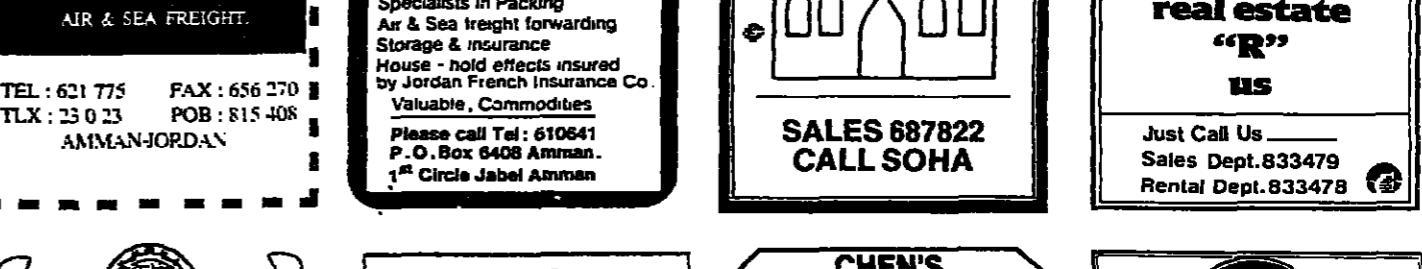


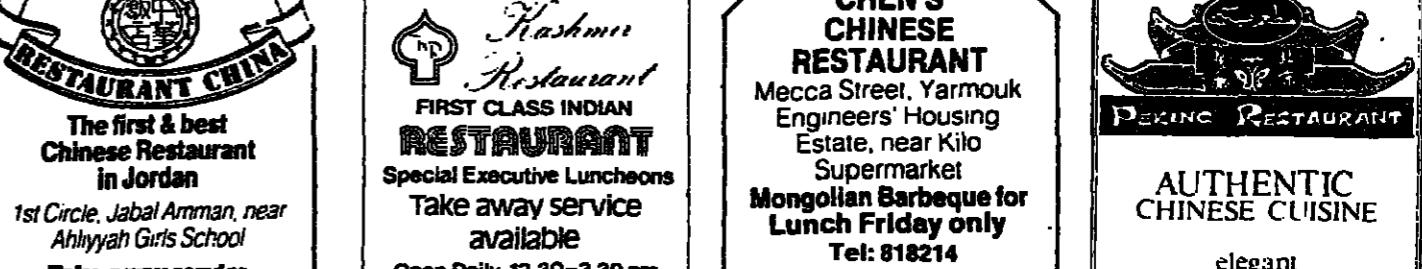




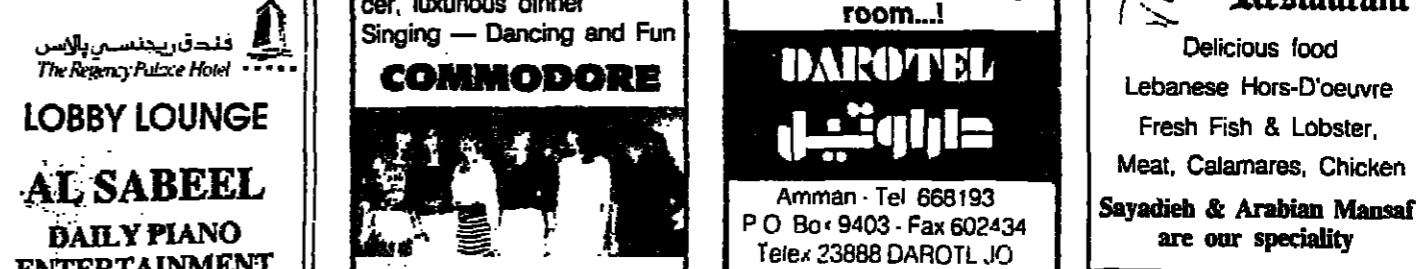


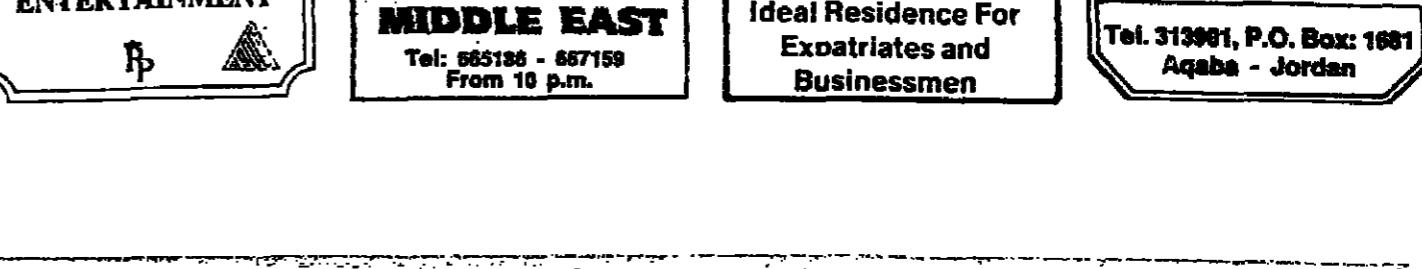


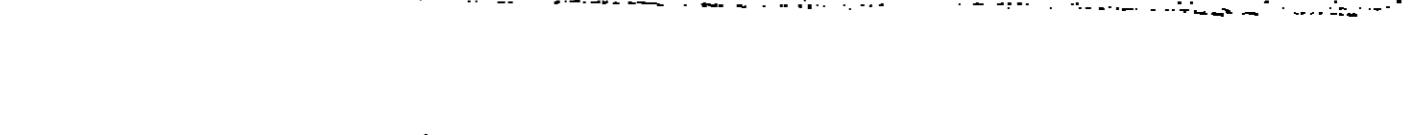












Soviets dominate boxing finals at Goodwill Games

SEATTLE. Washington (R) — Soviet fighters won four of six titles on the last day of Goodwill Games boxing to edge the U.S. team for gold honours in the eight-day tournament.

Three of the six Sunday finals matched U.S. and Soviet boxers, with the Soviets taking two of them to bring their gold tally to five — one more than the young Americans.

The powerhouse seven-man Cuban team, which includes four world amateur champions, came away with just two golds.

Super heavyweight Yevgeni Belousov got the Soviets started with a 3-2 decision over American Larry Donald in the opening bout.

Belousov outpointed Donald with rapid, well-timed combinations. "I had a plan for him — mostly in-fighting, no slugging, mostly counter-punching," Belousov said.

"I was more or less going up against a bear," Donald said.

Soviet Andrei Kurnyavka, the world amateur middleweight champion, completed a golden performance as a light heavyweight by outboxing American Terry McGroarty to win 5-0.

American Eric Griffin, the world light flyweight champion, delivered the only U.S. victory against the Soviets Sunday with a convincing 5-0 decision over Anatoli Filippov.

Filippov tried to trap the American against the ropes in the first two rounds, but Griffin was too quick and scored with fast shots to the head.

"It was kind of close the first two rounds. The third round I really came on," Griffin said.

Soviet world light middleweight champion Israel Akopkhanian edged world number two East German Torsten Schmitz in a 3-2 decision that drew boos from the crowd.

Schmitz forced the pace of the fight, constantly attacking the Soviet, who stood back and relied on quick jabs to score.

"I felt I was winning all the way, but I was nervous about the decision," said Akopkhanian, who has had 302 amateur bouts.

They remained even with pars

on the first extra hole — the 18th, but Mucha birdied the par-4 first hole to win the \$52,500 winner's check.

"I really felt good teeing off today," Mucha said. "Once I got to the halfway point today, my caddy told me to add a little spark to my game and I think that helped me get going. Until then, I was playing a little too relaxed."

"On the back nine, I tried to play a little more aggressive but not put too much pressure on myself. I had a lot of fun," Rittenhouse said.

They remained even with pars

Kite triumphs in sudden death, breaks \$6 million in earnings

MEMPHIS, Tennessee (R) — Tom Kite Sunday became the first \$6 million man on the U.S. PGA tour when he won the St Jude classic golf tournament with a birdie on the second hole of a sudden death playoff at the \$350,000 Boston Five classic.

Both players finished regulation play at 11-under-par 277 after Kite turned in a final-round 69 and Rittenhouse posted a 7-under 65 over the last 18-holes to set up the sudden death showdown, the first for either player.

They remained even with pars

on the first extra hole — the 18th, but Mucha birdied the par-4 first hole to win the \$52,500 winner's check.

Rittenhouse started further back at 4-under but began her charge up the leader board early with four consecutive birdies beginning on the fourth hole.

On the back nine Rittenhouse birdied 13 and 15 and carded her final birdie on the 18th hole to force the playoff.

"I was playing with Cindy Kite today and I really thought that she was going to win," Rittenhouse said.

"I played so well on the front nine and then John put on that blitzkrieg on the back nine.

"I feel good about my game going into the PGA," Kite said on the year's final major tournament. "My putting is back."

France last month when Schwantz won and he finished third.

Australian former champion Wayne Gardner, who snatched pole position for Honda on the closing minutes of practice Saturday, was forced to retire on the opening lap with engine trouble.

Schwantz, second fastest in qualifying, made a sluggish start from the grid as Lawson took the early lead with Rainey close behind.

But Lawson soon fell back and Rainey went ahead until the 10th lap when Schwantz took over. By the 17th lap Schwantz was in control, his time of one minute 33.762 seconds destroying the previous lap record of 1:34.51 held by Lawson.

"It was really windy out there and it seemed like every corner was a different racetrack from the

top two only once this season, in

lap before," Rainey complained.

The weather turned windy overnight after a week of sweltering heat.

Schwantz, who crossed the line with one wheel in the air and delighted the crowd by riding a victory lap standing up with an American flag billowing from his arms, said it would be difficult to beat Rainey for the championship but the battle was far from over.

"We're going to keep trying. We've got four races left and it's going to be really tough," he said.

Schwantz's victory put the two level on five wins each for the season but Rainey's finishing has been far more consistent.

A Honda racing team spokesman, asked about Gardner's early exit, said he was unsure what had happened: "Nobody dare go ask him," he said.

British Carl Fogerty, making

his grand prix debut in place of injured Italian Pierfrancesco Città, had an equally disastrous race. He fell from his Honda on the third lap but was not seriously hurt.

In the 250 cc grand prix, Spaniard Carlos Cardus was handed the championship lead when American John Kocinski, who had led from the start on his Yamaha, skidded off on the 14th lap.

Luca Cadalora of Italy on a

Yamaha went on to win, with Suzuki rider Cardus picking up enough points for his fifth place to move four points ahead of Kocinski.

Italian 17-year-old sensation Loris Capirossi, who started road racing at the age of 14, won his first world championship grand prix to top the 125 cc standings in his first season.

Swede wins British golf tournament

WOBURN, England (AP) — Helen Alfredsson sunk a five-foot par putt on the fourth hole of sudden death playoff Sunday to beat Zimbabwe's Jane Hill and win the British Women's Open Golf championship, her first tournament victory.

The U.S. ice hockey team nearly scored its first victory over the Soviets since the much-touted miracle on ice — when the Americans beat the Soviet Union at the 1980 Lake Placid Olympic Games.

But it was not to be. With the U.S. leading 3-2 and 21 seconds left in regulation play, Soviet Valeri Kamensky completed a hat-trick to send the game into overtime.

After a 10-minute, scoreless sudden death period, the Americans found themselves facing their second shootout in two days.

Unlike Saturday, when they beat Canada 5-4 to advance to the final, the Americans came up short and the Soviets, Olympic and world champions, won 4-3. Sweden earned the bronze medal with a 6-1 victory over Canada.

In the water, East German Jan Hempel beat 1988 Olympic silver medallist Ni Xiong of China to win the men's 10-metre platform diving competition — the final medal event of the games.

Doping scandal

The Goodwill Games were hit by a doping scandal Sunday when officials announced that four athletes had tested positive for banned substances during the competition.

Neither the athletes nor their sports were identified by officials of the Soviet-American Joint Commission against doping, which supervised testing for the 21-sport competition.

"They were not in the same sport," Baaron Pittenger, co-chairman of the commission, told Reuters.

Two of the positive tests involved over-the-counter drugs, but Pittenger would not elaborate. "We've said what we are going to say," he said.

Pittenger said the positive tests were reported to the various sport federations for action.

The four positive tests were found among 493 tests conducted in 18 sports during the first 16 days of the 17-day games, which ended Sunday.

Ice hockey

The U.S. ice hockey team narrowly missed performing another "miracle on ice."

The American icemen, beaten 10-1 by the Soviet Union earlier in the week, were 21 seconds

from the first extra hole — the 18th, but Mucha birdied the par-4 first hole to win the \$52,500 winner's check.

Mucha started the day with a one stroke lead at 8-under-par and came up four birdies and one bogey to reach 11-under.

Rittenhouse started further back at 4-under but began her charge up the leader board early with four consecutive birdies beginning on the fourth hole.

On the back nine Rittenhouse birdied 13 and 15 and carded her final birdie on the 18th hole to force the playoff.

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Economy

Fuel prices quadruple

Lebanese currency plummets to 710 for one U.S. dollar

BEIRUT (AP) — The Lebanese currency plummeted and fuel prices shot up Monday as a result of failure to reach a political settlement in Lebanon's civil war and Iraq's take-over of Kuwait.

The lira fell to an all-time low on the money market, closing in Beirut trading Monday selling at 710 to \$1.

The Lebanese lira was one of the soundest Middle Eastern currencies before the 1975 outbreak of the civil war trading at 2.5 liras to \$1.

Fuel prices have quadrupled since Iraq's move into Kuwait Thursday. A twenty-liter can of gasoline rose from 2,810 liras (roughly \$41) to 8,000 liras (\$16).

Lebanon imports all its fuel needs. There has been an acute

fuel shortage in the market lately.

Long queues of motorists have been forming at filling stations for days in both sectors of the capital as well as other large cities and towns.

The oil ministry blamed the sharp rise on unidentified pro-

teeters and said two fuel tankers were expected to arrive later this week with 33,000 tons of gasoline.

Financial sources at Lebanon's central bank attributed the new decline of the currency to the government's inability to resolve internal mini wars plaguing Lebanon's major sects.

The inability of President Elias Hrawi's central government to resolve the conflicts has initiated the latest currency depreciation.

Japan may face energy crisis after ban on Iraqi, Kuwaiti oil

TOKYO (R) — Japan may face an energy crisis after its decision Sunday to ban imports of Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil in retaliation for Iraq's takeover of its neighbour.

Oil industry sources and analysts said the country could experience a serious oil shortage and sharply higher import bills if the ban lasted more than a few months.

Government statistics show the country, which imports 99 per cent of its oil, has just 142 days of reserves.

Higher oil prices could fuel inflation and slow economic growth. International Trade and Industry Minister Kabun Muto told a news conference after Japan announced the ban.

Oil refiners, who get 70 per cent of their oil from the Middle East, must now look for alternative sources of crude.

Muto said its almost total reliance on imports put Japan in a worse position than countries

with their own energy resources.

The government said the ban would stay until Iraq withdrew its troops from Kuwait and returned the emir to power.

Iraq and Kuwait supplied about 12 per cent of Japan's oil in the first six months of 1990, a Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) official told reporters.

The Japanese government, following a similar decision by the United States, announced the complete ban on oil imports from Iraq as part of a package of economic sanctions.

A MITI official said oil products in general were included in the ban but it was not yet clear whether all products, such as liquefied petroleum gas, would be included.

In terms of the effects of a possible disruption of oil flows, "everything hinges on how long the conflict will last," said Naoshi Kojima, chief economist at the

Japanese Institute of Middle Eastern Economics, before the ban was announced.

"Japan would be all right if it is only for a few months and would be able to cover its needs with oil from its stocks and other suppliers," he said.

Muto said Japan would seek increased supplies in the world market if the sanctions remained in effect for long.

Industry sources said reduced supplies from Iraq and Kuwait would be covered for a time by increased production from other exporters including Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Iran, Venezuela and North African countries.

One analyst for a leading Japanese refiner said the combined surplus production capacity of Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Venezuela was almost equal to the united current production of Iraq and Kuwait of four million barrels per day.

Norway cannot raise oil output

OSLO (R) — Oil firms in Norway, which are closing many of their North Sea platforms for routine summer maintenance work, said Monday they were unable to raise output to make up for shortfalls caused by Iraq's takeover of Kuwait.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Monday, August 6, 1990			
Central Bank official rates			
Buy	Sell	French franc	124.7
		Japanese yen (for 100)	439.7 442.3
U.S. dollar	659.0 663.0	Dutch guilder	371.1
Pound Sterling	1229.3 1236.7	Swedish crown	113.2 113.9
Deutschmark	415.6 418.1	Italian lira (for 100)	56.9 57.2
Swiss franc	490.4 493.3	Belgian franc (for 10)	201.7 202.9

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.			
One Sterling	1.8720.30	U.S. dollar	1.1483.00
One U.S. dollar	1.1483.00	Canadian dollar	1.5755.60
		Deutschmarks	1.7750.60
		Dutch guilders	1.3320.30
		Swiss francs	32.3843
		Belgian francs	5.2825.75
		French francs	11531.154
		Italian lire	149.65.75
		Japanese yen	5.7960.8010
		Swedish crowns	6.1175.1225
		Norwegian crowns	6.0175.0225
One ounce of gold	380.25.381.00	Danish crowns	
		U.S. dollars	

Cinema

RAINBOW

Tel: 625155

FRANTIC

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

Cinema

CONCORD

Tel: 677420

Dureld Lahham / Madeline Tabar in **KAFROUN**

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

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Oil prices head towards \$27 a barrel

LONDON (R) — Oil prices soared Monday because of fears of a wider Gulf conflict and chaos over supplies after major nations boycotted exports from Iraq and Iraqi-held Kuwait.

London futures prices for the world benchmark crude Brent blend, from Britain's North Sea, hit a high at \$26.80 per barrel for September delivery against \$23.48 at Friday's close.

"It has been absolute pandemonium in the market," said Peter Gignoux, a London-based director with trading house Shearson Lehman Hutton.

With tankers no longer calling to pick up its oil, Iraq Monday closed one of its pipelines taking exported crude across Turkey.

The oil market has been in turmoil since Iraq invaded Kuwait at dawn last Thursday, causing tension in a region supplying a fifth of Western oil.

Concern that Baghdad might invade Saudi Arabia, OPEC's biggest exporters, have fanned ten-

sion.

Brent is up more than \$3 from Friday. The Brent price, a key indicator of what crude fetches around the globe, has soared more than 75 per cent from around \$15 in mid-June, largely because of tension in the Gulf.

It has not been as high since December 1985, just before OPEC states began ignoring quotas in a scramble for oil revenue.

Cheap energy since then has helped to fuel the longest post-World War II global economic expansion on record.

Peter Nicol, a director of oil research with Warburg Securities in London, said that embargoes now imposed on Iraqi and Kuwaiti crude by the United States, the 12-nation European Community and Japan had caused "a huge supply dislocation."

Companies which could not lift Iraqi or Kuwaiti oil any more were scrambling to get supplies

from elsewhere — "crude you thought you had in your supply chain is no longer there."

World stocks are at eight-year highs, with cover for about 100 days, because of recent excess OPEC production. But oil firms are still searching for crude rather than tap their stocks.

"There is a natural instinct to hoard," Nicol said.

"People are reluctant to use stocks before they know how bad things will get. The nightmare scenario is that we may go to a post-World War II global economic expansion on record."

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Companies which could not lift Iraqi or Kuwaiti oil any more were scrambling to get supplies

under OPEC quota rules.

"If we deduct domestic consumption and if a boycott against Iraq is effected which will never be 100 per cent then we will be talking about something like three million," Aqazadeh said.

There was "more than this floating in tankers," and he thought stocks ought to cover the loss.

Oil supply analysts said his arithmetic might be right.

But they did not take account of the concern that the crisis could escalate with the possible blockade of Iraq under mandatory U.N. sanctions or a "nightmare scenario" of war between Iraq and a U.S.-backed Saudi Arabia.

Other industry officials said that in a week or so, if the price spiral continued, Western nations might have to ask Saudi Arabia to make up lost Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil.

Iraq would be furious if it thought its Arab neighbour would do so, industry experts

said.

The West's need for Saudi oil was seen by industry officials as a more pressing reason for offering the kingdom Western military guarantees than any notion of getting it to shut a pipeline taking Iraqi crude across its territory in order to punish Baghdad.

Closing pipelines that cross both Turkey and Saudi Arabia or blocking their Mediterranean and Red Sea outlets were apparently seen by the United States as a next option if the oil embargoes did not force Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait.

To make up shortages, Saudi Arabia could raise daily output by at least 1.5 million barrels with 700,000 more coming from the neighbouring United Arab Emirates if they also defied Iraq.

Industry supply officials reckon that among others Venezuela, Nigeria, Mexico, Egypt and Norway could produce more. But in a tight market, Saudi Arabia might be crucial.

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Companies which could not lift Iraqi or Kuwait

Indian security forces arrest top leaders of Muslim separatists

SRINAGAR (Agencies) — Security forces on Monday arrested top leaders of a Muslim group spearheading the movement for secession of Kashmir from Hindu-majority India, officials said.

The two top leaders of the Jammu-Kashmir Liberation Front and six other members of the group were arrested during raids on suspected militant hideouts in Srinagar, said state government officials, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Within an hour of the arrest, shopkeepers began closing shops fearing violence. Authorities imposed an indefinite curfew preventing civilian movement on the streets.

The arrests of Yasin Malik, the "commander-in-chief" of the Jammu-Kashmir Liberation Front, and his deputy are a notable victory for the security forces. Malik was arrested in April but escaped from a hospital where he was undergoing treatment for injuries sustained in his capture.

His deputy, Abdul Hamid Sheikh, was one of five militants released last year in exchange for the liberty of the kidnapped daughter of Home Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed.

The army was deployed in several areas of old Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir's summer capital and heart of the eight-month-old revolt against Indian rule, as rumours spread that Malik and Sheikh had been captured.

Paramilitary forces were rushed onto the streets as shops closed and people ran around in panic.

The deaths of other leading militants in clashes with security forces have resulted in mass demonstrations that have sometimes turned violent with security forces firing on protesters.

The groups are fighting either for an independent Kashmir, including the one-third of the region controlled by Pakistan, or for union with Pakistan.

Those who have seen Malik

told Reuters by telephone on Saturday the Tigers were not involved in that massacre.

Farook said a hand-written note on paper bearing the emblem of the Tiger group threatened all Muslims who did not vacate the area around Sunday's massacre site at Alindamdu village.

"If all Muslims don't leave this area by August 10, the fate that befell the Muslims at Kathankudy will overtake them," the note said.

Farook said Muslims held the government responsible for the massacres because no security had been provided despite repeated appeals.

There were reports that Muslims were retaliating.

On Monday, a group of about 100 Muslims shouting anti-Tamil slogans attempted to march to a Hindu temple in Colombo where Tamil worship, police said.

They assaulted and injured two Tamils standing near the temple before police dispersed the angry crowd.

A Tiger spokesman in Paris

Ethnic strife deepens in Sri Lanka

18 Muslims hacked to death

COLOMBO (R) — Suspected Tamil Tiger rebels hacked to death 18 Sri Lankan Muslims they abducted on Sunday in a second violent attack on the religious group, military sources and Muslim leaders said Monday.

A Muslim leader said the 18 were among 40 Muslims abducted while harvesting rice in Eastern Amparai district by guerrillas of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam who are fighting for a separate homeland.

"The bodies of 18 of them were found hacked to death today (Monday)," said Waffar Farook, treasurer of the Sri Lanka Muslim Congress. "No doubt the other 22 will also be killed because the Tigers don't release any of those whom they abduct."

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Philippine soldiers massacre 21 civilians; general killed

COTABATO CITY, Philippines, (R) — Twenty-one Muslims killed by troops in the southern Philippines in what the military said was a clash with rebels were civilian victims of an army massacre, a government human-rights panel said.

The commission on human rights said in a report issued on Sunday that soldiers killed 21 Muslim civilians in an early morning attack in Tacurong, Sultan Kudarat province on Friday.

"It was found out that there was no encounter between rebels and military troops as earlier reported... this commission found out that the incident was plain massacre," said a report signed by the group's regional director, Ciriaco Jabiado.

The findings contradicted a military report that soldiers killed 21 suspected Muslim separatist rebels in a gunbattle in Tacurong, 960 kilometres south of Manila.

Asked to comment on the report, regional army commander Brigadier-General Oswald Vilalauva said a military investigation of the incident had not yet been completed.

He said: "We stand pat on

General killed

A police general was shot dead

as he waited Monday for his wife in a car, the military said.

Brig. Gen. Antonio Teves, 49, was shot in the head and chest, said a military spokesman. Teves was deputy regional director for police operations in Davao city and adviser of a military-backed anti-Communist militia group.

Teves' guard also was killed in the morning attack in front of a crowded elementary school in Davao city, 970 kilometres southeast of Manila, said Philippine constabulary spokesman Lt. Col. Cris Maratil.

Davao police investigator Carito Almazan said two gunmen carrying pistols and grenades shot Teves pointblank and then commanded a van and fled with Teves' submachine gun and his guard's pistol.

Almazan quoted witnesses as saying that the killers appeared to be teenagers and that two other men served as lookouts.

Both Maratil and Almazan accused the Communist rebels of shooting Teves. Lt. Col. Efren Araya, chief of the criminal investigation service of the Philippine constabulary, said officials also were looking at the possibility the general was shot by personal enemies.

Witnesses said the soldiers doused the houses with petrol and started fires that spread to the ground where the bodies lay, burning them beyond recognition, according to the report.

It said the victims were then dumped in two common graves nearby.

General killed

A police general was shot dead

ry's claim that he was the target of overzealous white prosecutors. Others feel betrayed by the mayor, who had claimed repeatedly that he didn't use drugs.

"The majority of whites are just plain annoyed and angry and just want this guy to go," D.C. councilman Jim Nathanson said before the trial began. Nathanson, who is white, represents a predominantly white district.

A U.S. district court jury began deliberating the Barry case last week.

For all the talk about racial

polarisation, Barry is the one who was often credited with cooling the tempers that erupted after the assassination of black civil rights leader Martin-Luther King Jr. in 1968.

Ten people died, 1,191 were reported injured and 7,650 were arrested in the city's worst riots. Washington was then 63 per cent black.

Some black leaders have suggested that the climate exists for a resurgence of racial violence in Washington if Barry is convicted. Barry himself said it will not.

Those who would even talk about that don't represent me, don't represent what I stand for," he told reporters last week. "You obviously don't, realise that we have grown as a people the last 20 years. We will not destroy that which we have worked so hard to build up."

Barry has called the case "a political lynching" and a case of "satanic, dirt-like tactics."

Jesse Jackson, perhaps the most prominent black U.S. politician, called it part of an "ugly pattern" of "white judicial leadership attacking black

Some black leaders have suggested that the climate exists for a resurgence of racial violence in Washington if Barry is convicted. Barry himself said it will not.

Longtime civil rights advocate and educator Roger Wilkins, a past political supporter of the mayor, wrote recently in the Washington Post: "Marion Barry used the elders and lied to the young. He has manipulated thousands of others with his cynical use of charges of racism to defend his malodorous personal failures."

political leadership."

Benjamin Hooks, executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People, a civil rights group, voiced a similar complaint.

But the prosecutor, U.S. attorney Jay Stephens, said he believes in trying cases "regardless of who the person is or what the political priorities are."

Barry, who entered politics as a street organizer in the U.S. civil rights movement, has been mayor for 12 years. He is not seeking re-election.

Social Democrats urge immediate German unification

By Mark Fritz
The Associated Press

EAST BERLIN — A giant labour union and the second-largest parties in both German states said Monday East Germany can only be saved by dissolving quickly and that German unification could occur this week.

Pressure has been building for East Germany to solve its worsening economic problems by immediately dissolving itself and turning the shambles of its economy over to wealthy West Germany.

At the root of the debate is an intense political feud by parties jockeying to use unification to their political advantage in upcoming united German elections.

Horst Ehmke, deputy chairman of the West German Social Democrats, said Monday that East Germany could vote this week on a clause in the West German constitution that would result in immediate unification.

"The economic, social and financial developments in (East Germany) are going downhill at such a speed that I would not be astonished if we had a very fast unity," he said in an interview on West German radio.

Earlier, he said that East German lawmakers could vote on unification Wednesday, when the parliament meets.

The East German Social Democrats planned to meet Monday to decide whether to press this week for a vote on unification, and decide on Tuesday whether to leave Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere's coalition.

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's demand last week to move up united German elections from Dec. 2 to Oct. 14 has prompted his chief rivals, the Social Democrats, to seek unity

even sooner.

The Social Democratic parties of both German states are closely allied. They are the leading opposition in West Germany and part of de Maiziere's broad governing coalition in East Germany.

ing West Germany's constitutional timetable for elections.

Friedrich Bohr, leader of the Christian Democrat faction in the West German Bundestag, said unity and elections must be tied together.

"Unity and common elections are two sides of the same coin," he said Monday on West German radio. "I cannot see carrying out unity without common elections."

The head of the German trade union, the largest labour association in West Germany with more than 8 million members, also pressed for immediate unity.

Labour association chief Heinz-Werner Meyer said the July 1 economic unification of the German states — when East Germany made a virtual overnight transition from socialism to a free market — happened too quickly

Kohl, for the same reason, wants balloting as quickly as possible, even if it means changing

West Germany's constitution.

and will have disastrous effects.

He said that West Germany should take responsibility for advocating such a quick economic merger by following through with an immediate political consolidation.

The deputy chairman of the East German Social Democrats, Karl-August Kamilli, on Monday also called for fast unification.

It is up to East Germany to enact unification. That will be done when its parliament approves a clause in the West German constitution that will allow it to accede to its bigger neighbour.

The Social Democrats have sought to slow the process of unification since it was first proposed by Kohl early this year.

By pressing for quick unity and elections later, they can appear to embrace the process while still benefiting politically from elections.

Kohl, meanwhile, would have to spend more West German money on East Germany right away, and then perhaps pay for it at the polls in December.

Kohl, in an interview on West German television on Sunday, sidestepped questions about whether taxes would have to be raised to pay for unification.

Right now, East German jolliness, while climbing, is being kept artificially low by a West German-financed programme to keep workers on payrolls at shortened hours and lower wages.

Without that programme, unemployment would likely be more than 10 per cent, rather than the 2.7 per cent it was estimated at last month.

Joblessness is expected to eventually reach perhaps 30 per cent or 40 per cent.



De Klerk, Mandela resume talks

By Brendan Boyle
Reuter

blocks the same rights as the five million whites.

De Klerk aide Marius Kleynhans said the talks could be extended after dinner on Monday evening if necessary.

But the mood has been soured by police allegations last month of a Communist plot in the ANC to bypass negotiations and seize power.

Government officials at first

indicated they wanted Com-

munist Party General Secre-

tary Joe Slovo to be dropped

from the ANC team, but he

arrived in a white BMW limousine leading Mandela's

convoy and cracked jokes be-

fore the talks began.

ANC officials have been

optimistic of success.

"There should be no reason

why the talks should not bring

finality to the removal of

obstacles to negotiation," Thabo Mbeki, an ANC negotiator, told a business meeting last week.

The ANC has tied suspen-

sion of its armed campaign to

wider demands for an end to

state violence against its mem-

bers and lifting of security

laws, such as the internal

security act, which is used to

detain people without charge or trial.

The ANC says police en-

courage black conservatives to

attack its supporters, while the

government says ANC-aligned

groups use violence to intimi-

date their political opponents.

A major issue is the conflict

in the Eastern Natal province,

where leftist pro-ANC groups

are locked in a power struggle

with traditionalist supporters

of Zulu chief Mangosuthu

Buthelezi's Inkatha move-

ment.

The ANC wants the govern-

ment to end emergency rule in

Natal as it did in the rest of the

country last June, because it

says security forces favour In-

khatha.

The ANC has claimed more than 3,000 lives in three years, again erupted